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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Dr. Mark Dever of the Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC.

We are pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Mark Dever, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray: Lord God, as we begin the official business of the day in this place, we praise You for Your sustaining presence. We remember facing situations that we were certain we could not face, or having to face them, could not survive. Yet, by Your providence, we did. And so we begin this new day by praising You for Your sustaining presence, even in apparently hopeless situations.

We praise You, too, for Your sovereign reminder of Yourself, even through pain and disaster. We confess, Lord, that for all of our words about problems in our society we are too often quietly and wrongly proud of the prosperity of this Nation, feeling that we ourselves are sufficient explanations for all the good we see and know. So, Lord God, we praise You and thank You that You use the bounds of our abilities and troubles to remind us of the limits of our power. Do not leave us, Lord, in false beliefs about ourselves, and our roles here, or about You, and Your rightful claims on us.

When we are frustrated by injustices we cannot address, remind us, Lord, of the brevity of this life. And remind us of Your coming judgment: of its reality, its certainty, its inevitability, its finality.

When we are tempted to be selfish or indifferent to our work, remind us of the responsibility You have entrusted

to us: to listen, to learn, to reflect, to pray, to legislate, to obey.

When we are tempted to pride in what we have done—when we see a bill passed, a program begun or ended, an initiative completed—and we feel something of the power of our office, remind us of our complete and utter dependence on You.

For Your glory, O Lord, restore this land. We know that we are not here finally to fulfill our own desires, or even the desires of our constituents. We know that we are put here to serve You. So, we pray that You would use us—use the business done in this place today, use our Government, use our Nation to display Your character, Your glory throughout all Your creation. We ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate will immediately resume consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 57, the concurrent budget resolution, and will begin a series of consecutive roll-call votes on or in relation to the pending amendments.

Under agreement reached last night, the first series of votes will continue until 1 p.m. today. There will be no votes, as agreed to, between the hours of 1 and 2. However, the Senate will proceed with another series of legislative votes beginning at 2 o'clock today.

Senators are asked to remain in or around the Senate Chamber throughout these voting sequences in order to

facilitate the disposition of amendments as quickly as possible. The first vote in both series will be 15 minutes in length, but all remaining votes will be limited to 10 minutes each. The Senate will complete action on the budget resolution during today's session—hopefully, by late afternoon.

I think we have already considered some 34 amendments. We still have, I guess, 10 or 12 votes that are likely and probably about 4 hours would be required to complete that.

So, if the Members would stay close to the floor and we work hard, I know the managers would appreciate it, and we can get this work done before late this afternoon.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. EXON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHELBY). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. EXON. While the acting majority leader is here, I would like to clarify a point or two, if I might.

First, I think most of us agree that there has been no one who is more cooperative in moving this thing forward than the ranking member of the Budget Committee.

When I left the floor last night before we adjourned, there had been a firm announcement that—I thought it was a firm announcement—that we would come in at 10 o'clock this morning, which fit in very well with this Senator's schedule, and I think the schedule of the Senate as a whole. I did not know until after the Senate had adjourned, nor was I contacted, about moving the time from 10 o'clock, as stated by the chairman of the committee to the whole Senate half an hour before that.

I would simply say that I wish we would follow the customary procedure. I think it is normal to check with the ranking member before you change times after it has been agreed to.

Following up on that, I must say that I understood that we could not work

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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